Growing Death Rate of Children in the Country

183. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the UNICEF Report-1987, the number of children who died in India during the past two years was much more than in most of the African nations;

(b) if so, what is the state of health of children in India in the age group of 0—7;

(c) what is the number of children who died in India in 1987; and

(d) what preventive methods as suggested by WHO have been taken to check growing death rate of children in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) According to "The State of the World's Children 1987" published by UNICEF, under-5 child mortality rate in India is more than some of the African countries and India ranks 40th amongst the list of 130 countries.

(c) The estimate of children died in India in 1987 is not available. The latest available number of estimated deaths amongst children in the country in age group 0-4 years as obtained from SRS Registrar General of India for the year 1984 is 37.4 lakhs.

(d) The steps taken by Government of India to reduce child mortality include improvement of health infrastructure, training of health manpower, health education, adoption of "risk approach", universal immunisation of children, oral rehydration therapy in diarrhoeal diseases, promotion of breast feeding and proper weaning practices, prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia and supplementary nutrition under I.C.D.S. Scheme.

Demand for Uniform National Pay Scales etc. for AISTF

184. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Secondary School Teachers' Association (AISTF) has submitted a memorandum demanding uniform national pay scales and service conditions; if so, the action taken thereon; and

(b) whether Government propose to bring them at par with University Teachers in the matter of service conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN *THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION* AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The All India Secondary Teachers' Federation had submitted a memorandum dated 1-12-1987 addressed to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha containing the demands stated in the Question. The Lok Sabha Secretariat asked the Department of Education to furnish factual comments on the Memorandum for the consideration of the Committee on Petitions of the Lak Sabha. The comments have been sent.

(b) No, Sir.

Collection of Capitation Fees by Educational Institutions

185. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have advised the State Governments and Union Territories to prevent collecting capitation fees by educational institutions;

(b) whether Government have taken note of abnormal increase of tuition fee by schools and colleges; and

(c) what are the plans to stop collection of capitation fees by schools and colleges under the new education policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The Government have issued suitable instructions to the State Governments and the Union Territories to present the collection of capitation fees by the Technical and Medical institutions. Legislative measures have also been taken to stop the practice of collecting capitation fees. The All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 passed by Parliament and the proposed amendment to the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 which is already under consideration of the Joint Committee of the Parliament, *inter alia* include provisions to prohibit collection of capitation fees. Some of the States have also enacted laws in this regard.

(b) The Government is aware of the fact that certain private technical and medical institutions are charging high tution fees.

(c) The All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 has been passed in pursuance of the objectives of the New Education Policy and as already stated in reply to part (a) of the Question, this Act contains provisions for prohibition of collection of capitation fees.

Development of Water Transport in Rivers Narmada and Tapti

186. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1967 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th November, 1987 and state the time by when Government propose to declare Narmada and Tapti as National Waterways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): For declaration of a waterway as a National Waterway, hydrographic survey and techno-economic studies are some of the pre-requisites. The techno-economic study on Narmada has been taken up with the Dutch Assistance and is partly completed. However hydrographic surveys on Narmada is feasible only on completion of four major dams which are contemplated at Narmada Sagar, Omkareshwar, Maheshwar and Sardar Sarovar. As regards Tapti, the hydrographic survey and the techno-economic study are not part of the VII Plan and therefore it is not possible now to indicate the time by which it will be declared as a National Waterway.

Purchase of Russian passenger aeroplane by Indian Airlines

187. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines have decided to purchase Russian passenger aeroplanes; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the agreement and by when the aeroplanes are scheduled to be delivered?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Legislation of ban sex determination test

188. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:
SHRI P. SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Voluntary Health Association of